

Master Plan Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2024

1. Attendance: Matt Benoit Community Development Director Via Zoom, Richard Preston, Ross Smith, Bob Minarik, Carol Gogolinski, Gordon Larrivee, Mike Zwicker and Linda Brown. Excused absence Meg Schlesman. Not excused absence Brandon Moore, John Bombara and Bob Moran.
2. Gordon Larrivee motions to approve the August 21, 2024 minutes as amended. Bob Minarik seconds the motion. The motion passes.
3. Revised Master Plan meeting schedule. Mike Zwicker motions to approve the revised meeting schedule. Bob Minarik seconds the motion. The motion passes.
4. CMRPC participation: Emily Glaubitz and Sam Carter are present. We are handed out a Draft Survey and a copy of the 2022 Douglas Open Space and Recreation Plan. For the Draft Survey cover page under "Introduction" the last paragraph should read "Paper copies are available for pickup and drop-off at the Public Library, Adult Social Center and Town Hall. The entire survey should take about 15 minutes." It should also include "Visit Town website to fill out online. There will also be a QR Code available".
5. Matt Benoit will look into easily finding all Master Plan information on the Town website. Right now it is under Community Development.
Draft Survey: Discussion.
Question #2 should read "Do you plan to retire here?", and include check boxes of 10, 20 years, etc...
Question #3 the first box about housing should be seniors (age 55+).
Question #5 Economic Development should add clean energy sales & service, auto repair and gas stations.
Question #6 Activities and Amenities we need to add Mumford River walk.
The Land Use Map needs to be larger as a 2 page pull out and add both Town and State Open Space.
Question #7 add under Recreational Active & Passive include bike trails.
Question #9 amend "For Town services please describe any issues or concerns you have with your service such as permits, water sewer, etc."
Question #10 add Condition of bridges as a separate line from Condition of roads.
Question #12 Cultural and Historic Resources the first line should be amended to include 'Town will vote on whether or not to adopt the Community Preservation Act (CPA).'
- Question #13 should be "The Old Grammar School at Gleason Court etc... The second sentence should say the Town hopes to find a new use for this historic building. Included in the question "Should the Town sell this building or keep it." We also need to include a photo of this building.
Question #21 will be amended to only state "For questions or updates – and give Matt's or Emily Glaubitz's email. Add somewhere in the Survey "Are you willing to pay higher taxes for these extra services."
6. We review a Draft postcard for the survey to be mailed out to property owners in Douglas who own homes, land and businesses. The postcard needs to include the word Douglas in the title Master Plan Survey. This postcard will include a QR code. The Committee can submit any Town of Douglas photos to add to the postcard.
7. Mike Zwicker motions to adjourn at 8:47pm. Ross Smith seconds the motion. The motion passes.

Linda Brown
Master Plan Committee
Secretary